

The State of New Hampshire

Department of Environmental Services



Michael P. Nolin Commissioner

> July 7, 2005 **Letter of Deficiency** DSP#05-020

Ms. Elizabeth Fox Town of Swanzey Town Administrator P.O. Box 10009 Swanzey, NH 03446

RE: Upper Wilson Pond Dam #232.06, Swanzey

Dear Ms. Fox:

The Department of Environmental Services, Dam Bureau (DES) consistently strives to enhance the safety of dams in New Hampshire through its dam safety program. One of the many instruments that play a part in reaching this goal is our inspection program. DES is forwarding this correspondence to you to advise you that in accordance with RSA 482:12 and Env-Wr 502.02, an inspection of the subject dam was conducted on June 9, 2004. During this visual inspection and/or file review, the following deficiencies were observed:

- 1. There was substantial erosion to the upstream left (as looking downstream) slope of the dam. This has caused a reduction in the cross sectional width of the dam;
- 2. The 300-400 foot long left embankment that extends beyond the current tree line is overgrown with trees and brush;
- 3. There is brush growth in the spillway discharge channel located between the dam and the roadway culvert;
- 4. The tree line is beginning to encroach on the right abutment of the dam;
- 5. The concrete portions of the dam are showing signs of deterioration;
- 6. The Emergency Action Plan (EAP) needs to be updated and tested. If you have any questions relative to the updating and testing of your EAP please contact Bethann McCarthy, P.E., EAP Coordinator at 271-4167; and
- 7. The operation and maintenance plan (O&M) that is currently on file is dated 1998. Please refer to the enclosed copy and incorporate any necessary changes.

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DES believes that the above deficiencies can be corrected by performing the following items by the indicated schedule:

November 1, 2006:

- 1. Repair the erosion to the upstream left (as looking downstream) slope of the dam;
- 2. Remove the trees and brush along the 300-400 foot left embankment;
- 3. Remove the brush growth in the spillway discharge channel located between the dam and roadway culvert;
- 4. Remove some of the trees that are encroaching on the right abutment of the dam;
- 5. Repair the concrete portions of the dam that are showing signs of deterioration;
- 6. Update and test the EAP in accordance with the attached guidelines; and
- 7. Update the O&M plan.

DES is requesting that you complete and submit the attached "Intent to Complete Repairs" form, within 30 days of receipt of this letter, that will provide for correction of the identified deficiencies by the date(s) indicated above. Please call or write to our office if the repairs are completed ahead of the aforementioned schedule so that DES may schedule a follow-up inspection. Unless notified otherwise, DES will conduct the follow-up inspection on or after the date(s) indicated above. If you believe changes to the items of work or dates are necessary, please make the changes directly on the form and provide a brief explanation. We have enclosed a self addressed stamped envelope for you to return this form.

Our intent in sending you this correspondence is to make you aware of items that DES believes warrant your attention to insure the continued safe operation of your dam. It is our hope that, through the submittal of the attached form and a commitment to keeping a well-maintained dam, you will voluntarily comply with the requested items of work. If we do not receive the intent form or a similarly adequate written reply, we will assume that you are in agreement with our findings and recommendations and DES will carry out follow-up inspections accordingly.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this Letter of Deficiency or would like to be present at future inspections, please contact me at 271-3406, or write to the Water Division at the address listed on the bottom of the previous page.

Sincerely,

Office M. Blaney, P.E. Dam Safety Engineer

Attachments Guideline for an O&M plan w/Copy of 1998 O&M currently on file, Guideline for EAP, DB8, DB13 cc: Gretchen R. Hamel, Legal Unit Administrator

Bethann McCarthy, P.E., EAP Coordinator

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